

LES

Though charity alone will not make one happy in the other world, yet it shall *lessen* his punishment. *Calamy's Sermon*.
Collect into one sum as great a number as you please, this multitude, how great soever, *lessens* not one jot the power of adding to it, or brings him any nearer the end of the inexhaustible stock of number. *Locke*.
This thirst after fame betrays him into such indecencies as are a *lessening* to his reputation, and is looked upon as a weakness in the greatest characters. *Addison's Spectator*.
Nor are the pleasures which the brutal part of the creation enjoy, subject to be *lessened* by the uncalmness which arises from fancy. *Atterbury's Sermons*.
3. To degrade; to deprive of power or dignity.

To *lessen* thee, against his purpose serves
To manifest the more thy might. *Milton's Par. Lost*.
St. Paul chose to magnify his office, when ill men conspired to *lessen* it. *Atterbury's Sermons*.
To *LESSEN*. v. u. To grow less; to shrink; to be diminished.

All government may be esteemed to grow strong or weak, as the general opinion in those that govern is seen to *lessen* or increase. *Temple*.
The objection *lessens* very much, and comes to no more than this, there was one witness of no good reputation. *Atterbury's Sermons*.

LESSER. adj. A barbarous corruption of *less*, formed by the vulgar from the habit of terminating comparatives in *er*; afterwards adopted by poets, and then by writers of prose.

What great despite doth fortune to thee bear,
Thus lowly to abate thy beauty bright,
That it should not deface all other *lesser* light. *Fa. Qu.*
It is the *lesser* blot, modesty finds,
Women to change their shapes than men their minds.

The mountains, and higher parts of the earth, grow *lesser* and *lesser* from age to age: sometimes the roots of them are weakened by subterraneous fires, and sometimes tumbled by earthquakes into those caverns that are under them.

Can, after the murder of his brother, cries out, Every man that findeth me shall slay me. By the same reason may a man, in the state of nature, punish the *lesser* breaches of that law. *Locke*.

Any heat whatsoever promotes the ascent of mineral matter, but more especially of that which is subtle, and is consequently moveable more easily, and with a *lesser* power.

The larger here, and there the *lesser* lambs,
The new-fall'n young herd bleating for their dams. *Pope*.
LESSER. adv. [formed by corruption from *less*.]

Some say he's mad; others, that *lesser* hate him,
Do call it valiant fury. *Shakespeare's Macbeth*.
LESSSES. n. f. [*laissez*, French.] The dung of beasts left on the ground.

LESSON. n. f. [*leçon*, French; *lectio*, Latin.]
1. Any thing read or repeated to a teacher, in order to improvement.

I but repeat that *lesson*
Which I have learn'd from thee. *Denham's Sophy*.
2. Precept; notion inculcated.

This days ensample hath this *lesson* dear
Deep written in my heart with iron pen,
That bliss may not abide in state of mortal men. *Fa. Qu.*
Be not jealous over the wife of thy bosom, and teach her not an evil *lesson* against thyself. *Ecclesi. ix. 1.*

3. Portions of scripture read in divine service.
Notwithstanding so eminent properties, whereof *lessons* are happily destitute; yet *lessons* being free from some inconveniences whereunto sermons are more subject, they may, in this respect, no less take, than in other they must give the hand which betokeneth pre-eminence. *Hooker, b. v.*

4. Tune picked for an instrument.
Those good laws were like good *lessons* set for a flute out of tune; of which *lessons* little use can be made, till the flute be made fit to be played on. *Davies on Ireland*.

5. A rating lecture.
She would give her a *lesson* for walking so late, that should make her keep within doors for one fortnight. *Sidney*.
To *LESSON*. v. a. [from the noun.] To teach; to instruct.

Even in kind love, I do conjure thee,
To *lessen* me. *Shakespeare's Two Gentlemen of Verona*.
Well hast thou *lessen'd* us, this shall we do. *Shakespeare*.
Children should be reasoned betimes, and *lessened* into a contempt and detestation of this vice. *L'Estrange's Fables*.
LESSOR. n. f. One who lets any thing to farm, or otherwise, by lease.

Lords of the world have but for life their lease,
And that too, if the *lessor* please, must cease. *Denham*.
If he demises the glebe to a layman, the tenant must pay

LET

the small tithes to the vicar, and the great tithes to the *lessor*.

LET. conj. [from the adjective *less*.] That not.
Forty stripes he may give him, and not exceed; *let* if he should exceed, then thy brother should seem vile. *Deut. xxv*.
King Luitprand brought hither the corps, *let* it might be abused by the barbarous nations. *Addison on Italy*.

LET'STERCOCK. n. f.
Upon the north coast, for want of good harbours they have a device of two flicks filled with corks, and crossed flat-long, out of whose midst there riseth a thread, and at the same hangeth a sail; to this engine, termed a *letstercok*, they tie one end of their boulder, so as the wind coming from the shore filleth the sail, and the sail carrieth the boulder into the sea, which, after the respite of some hours, is drawn in again by a cord fastened at the nearer end. *Cervus on Cornwall*.
To *LET*. v. a. [Hebrew, Saxon.]

1. To allow; to suffer; to permit.

Nay, nay, quoth he, *let* be your strife and doubt. *Fairfax*.
Where there is a certainty and an uncertainty, *let* the uncertainty go, and hold to that which is certain. *Ep. Sanderfon*.

On the crowd he cast a furious look,
And wither'd all their strength before he spoke;
Back on your lives, *let* be, said he, my prey,
And let my vengeance take the destin'd way. *Dryden*.

Remember me, I speak, Raymond, will you *let* him?
Shall he remember Leonora. *Dryden's Spanish Friar*.
We must not *let* go manifest truths, because we cannot answer all questions about them. *Collier*.

One who fixes his thoughts intently on one thing, so as to take but little notice of the succession of ideas in his mind, *lets* slip out of his account a good part of that duration. *Locke*.
A solution of mercury in aqua fortis being poured upon iron, copper, tin, or lead, dissolves the metal, and *lets* go the mercury. *Newton's Opticks*.

2. A sign of the optative mood used before the first and imperative before the third person. Before the first person singular it signifies resolution; fixed purpose, or ardent wish.
Let me die with the Philistines. *Judges*.

Here is her picture: *let* me see; I think,
If I had such a tire, this face of mine
Were full as lovely as in this of her's. *Shakespeare*.

3. Before the first person plural, *let* implies exhortation.
Rise; *let* us go. *Mark*.

4. Before the third person, singular or plural, *let* implies permission or precept.
Let the soldiers seize him for one of the assassins. *Dryden*.

5. Before a thing in the passive voice, *let* implies command.
Let not the objects which ought to be contiguous be separated, and let those which ought to be separated be apparently so to us; but *let* this be done by a small and pleasing difference. *Dryden's Duffresney*.

6. *Let* has an infinitive mood after it without the particle *to*.
But one submissive word which you *let* fall,
Will make him in good humour with us all. *Dryden*.
The seventh year thou shalt *let* it rest, and lie still. *Exod.*

7. To leave.
They did me too much injury,
That ever said I hearken'd for your death.
If it were so, I might have *let* alone. *Shakespeare*.

The publick outrages of a destroying tyranny are but childish appetites, *let* alone till they are grown ungovernable.

Let me alone to accuse him afterwards. *Dryden's Sp. Friar*.
This is of no use, and had been better *let* alone: he is fain to resolve all into present possession. *Locke*.

8. To more than permit.
Nestor, do not *let* us alone till you have shortened our necks, and reduced them to their antient standard. *Addison*.
This notion might be *let* alone and despised as a piece of harmless unintelligible enthusiasm. *Rogers's Sermons*.

9. To put to hire; to grant to a tenant.
There's a letter for you, Sir, if your name be Horatio, as I am *let* to know it is. *Shakespeare's Hamlet*.

10. To suffer any thing to take a course which requires no impulsive violence.
Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon; he *let* the vineyard unto keepers. *Cant. viii. 11*.
Nothing deadens so much the composition of a picture, as figures which appertain not to the subject: we may call them figures to be *let*. *Dryden's Duffresney*.

She *let* her second floor to a very genteel youngish man. *Taylor, No. 88*.
A law was enacted, prohibiting all bishops, and other ecclesiastical corporations, from *letting* their lands for above the term of twenty years. *Swift*.

11. To suffer any thing to take a course which requires no impulsive violence.
She *let* them down by a cord through the window. *Job*.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

12. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

13. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

14. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

15. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

16. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

17. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

18. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

19. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

20. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

21. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

22. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

23. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

24. To let out; to give to hire or farm.
Launch out into the deep, and *let* down your nets for a draught. *Luke v. 4*.

LET

Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink. *Gen. xxiv. 14*.

My heart sinks in me while I hear him speak,
And every slacken'd fibre drops its hold;
Like nature *letting* down the springs of life:
So much the name of father awes me still. *Dryden*.
From this point of the story, the poet is *let* down to his traditional poverty. *Pope's Essay on Homer*.
You must *let* it down, that is, make it softer by tempering it. *Moxon's Mechanical Exercises*.

11. To permit to take any state or course.
To permit to take any state or course, he *let* loose his finding an ease in not understanding, he *let* loose his thoughts wholly to pleasure. *Sidney, b. ii*.
Let reason teach impossibility in any thing, and the will of man doth let it go. *Hooker, b. i*.

The beginning of strife is as when one *let*eth out water. *Prov. xvii. 14*.
As terebration doth meliorate fruit, so doth pricking vines or trees after they be of some growth, and thereby *letting* forth gum or tears. *Bacon's Natural History*.

And if I knew which way to do't,
Your honour safe, I'd let you out. *Hudibras*.
The *letting* out our love to mutable objects doth but enlarge our hearts, and make them the wider marks for fortune to be wounded. *Boyle*.

He was *let* loose among the woods as soon as he was able to ride on horseback, or carry a gun. *Addison's Spectator*.

12. To *LET* blood, is elliptical for *to let out blood*. To free it from confinement; to suffer it to stream out of the vein.
Be rul'd by me;
Let purge this choler without *letting* blood. *Shakespeare*.
Hippocrates *let* great quantities of blood, and opened several veins at a time. *Arbutnot on Coins*.

13. To *LET* blood, is used with a dative of the person whose blood is let.
Tell him, Catesby,
His antient knot of dangerous adversaries
To-morrow are *let* blood at Pomfret castle. *Shakespeare*.
As terebration doth meliorate fruit, so doth *letting* plants bleed, as pricking vines, thereby letting forth tears. *Bacon*.

14. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

What boots it at one gate to make defence,
And at another to let in the foe,
Effeminately vanquish'd.
The more tender our spirits are made by religion, the more easy we are to *let* in grief, if the cause be innocent. *Milton's Agonistes*.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

15. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

16. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

17. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

18. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

19. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

20. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

21. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

22. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

23. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

24. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

25. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

26. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

27. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

28. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

29. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

30. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

31. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

32. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

33. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

34. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

35. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

36. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

37. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

38. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

39. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

40. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

41. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

42. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

43. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

44. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

45. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

46. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

47. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

48. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.

49. To *LET* in. To admit.
Let in your king, whose labour'd spirits,
Sore wearied in this action of swift speed,
Crave harbourage within your city walls. *Shakespeare*.
Rockets presented his army before the gates of the city, in hopes that the citizens would raise some tumult, and *let* him in. *Knolles's History of the Turks*.